ground realities, modifications in the Industrial Disputes Act be made to maintain our competitiveness in fast changing global business environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) In accordance with the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) requirement that changes in labour laws must take place after consultation with the industry and trade unions, Ministry of Labour and Employment has held tripartite consultations with them and formulated certain draft proposals for amendment in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The draft proposals are at the stage of consultation with the Central Ministries/Departments.

Destruction of livestook and agriculture due to heavy rain and floods

*234. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale destruction of livestock and agriculture have occurred due to heavy rain and floods in various States;

(b) whether Government made proper assessment of the losses;

(c) whether Government have received request for Central assistance for relief work from the States;

(d) if so, the details with particular reference to Kerala; and

(e) the details of amount sought by the States and the funds sanctioned, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (e) As per the information received from the State/UT Governments, based on their preliminary assessment, 90671 livestock have perished and crops in an area of 50.39 lakh hectares are reported to have been damaged due to heavy rains and floods during South-West monsoon 2007 in 21 States and 01 UT.

So far, the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh have submitted memoranda seeking additional Central assistance of Rs. 1537.99 crore, Rs. 406.42 crore, Rs. 562.58 crore, Rs. 306.70 crore and Rs. 2200.00 crore respectively for relief operations in the wake of heavy rains/ floods of 2007. Inter-Ministerial Central Teams were constituted immediately by Ministry of Home Affairs and they have visited all the aforesaid States, for an on the spot assessment of damage and requirements of funds. The reports of the Central Teams are being processed in conformity with laid down procedure.

The Government of Bihar has requested for Central assistance towards short term, medium term and long term measures to manage the recurring flood situation in the State. However, the State has not yet submitted its memorandum seeking additional financial assistance under National Calamity Contingency Fund. In the meanwhile, Government of India has already constituted an Inter-Ministerial Central Team to visit the State, on receiving the memorandum.

The Government of India has released Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to these States during 2007-08. On the requests of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala, the 2nd instalment of Central share of CRF for the current year have also been released in advance. In addition, Rs. 50.00 crore has also been released to the State of Kerala on 7th August 2007 from the NCCF on an on account basis for carrying out relief operations in the flood affected areas.

Statement showing the allocation and releases of Central Share of CRF and funds released from NCCF to various States during the year 2007-08 is enclosed.

Statement

Allocation and Release of Funds from CRF and NCCF during 2007-2008

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Allocation of CRF			Releases from CRF		Releases from NCCF
		Central Share	State Share	Total	1st Instalment Amt.	2nd Instalment Amt.	
12		3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	284.51	94.84	379.35	77.735 (64.52)	142.255	17.80
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	22.48	7.49	29.97	11.24	–	–
3.	Assam	153.36	51.12	204.48	76.68	–	–
4.	Bihar	118.31	39.44	157.74	174.07*	–	–
5.	Chhattisgarh	88.76	29.59	118.35	21.19 (22.19)	–	–
6.	Goa	1.74	0.58	2.32	0.87	–	–
7.	Gujarat	203.41	67.8	271.22	48.57 (53.135)	–	–
8.	Haryana	102.85	34.28	137.13	51.425	–	–
9.	Himachal Pradesh	79.99	26.66	106.65	39.995	–	–
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	68.68	22.89	91.58	34.34	–	13.51
11.	Jharkhand	100.15	33.38	133.53	@	–	–
12.	Karnataka	94.81	31.6	126.41	23.70 (23.70)	47.405	–
13.	Kerala	70.7	23.57	94.26	35.35	35.35	50.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	201.97	67.32	269.29	50.495 (50.49)	–	–
15.	Maharashtra	184.31	61.44	245.75	47.695 (44.46)	–	168.92
16.	Manipur	4.42	1.47	5.89	2.21	–	–
17.	Meghalaya	8.96	2.99	11.95	4.48	–	–
18.	Mizoram	5.23	1.74	6.97	@	–	–
19.	Nagaland	3.03	1.01	4.05	@	–	–

1	2	34		5	6	7	8
20.	Orissa	239.53	79.84	319.38	61.105 (58.66)	–	–
21.	Punjab	120.74	40.25	160.99	60.37	–	–
22.	Rajasthan	343.68	114.56	458.25	85.50 (86.34)	–	–
23.	Sikkim	13.93	4.64	18.57	@	–	–
24.	Tamil Nadu	172.88	57.63	230.51	@	–	–
25.	Tripura	10.21	3.4	13.61	5.105	–	
26.	Uttar Pradesh	235.1	78.36	313.45	117.55	–	
27.	Uttarakhand	73.93	24.64	98.58	@	–	–
28.	West Bengal	186.47	62.15	248.62	93.235	–	–

Note:-Figures shown in brackets (in col. 6) includes about 25% Central share of CRF released in advance during 2006-07 for the year 2007-08.

@ First instalment of Central share of CRF has not been released for want of information relating to crediting of earlier releases and utilization certificate.

* Includes release of Central share of Rs. 114.42 crore for 2006-07.

Problem of drinking water

*235. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UNDP's Human Development Report 2006 focuses on one of the most serious problems facing humanity today the global water crisis as water supplies are under severe stress and more than a billion people have no access to safe drinking water and also two million children die every year for want of potable water and sanitation facilities;

(b) whether India with a sixth of the world's population faces a rapidly growing water crisis, both in the urban and rural areas; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Rural Drinking Water Supply is one of the six components of Bharat Nirman, which has been conceived as a plan to be implemented in four years, from 2005-06 to 2008-09 for building rural infrastructure. Under Bharat Nirman, it is proposed to cover all uncovered habitations, slipped back habitations and quality affected habitations by 2008-09. To achieve the above, the Central Government has increased the budget allocation from Rs. 2900 crore in 2004-05 to Rs. 6500 crore in 2007-08 in the rural drinking water sector.

With regard to drinking water in urban areas, to supplement the efforts of the States, the Government of India has launched in December, 2005, a reform linked programme called Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM)